

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 206673  
ORIGIN HA-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 /029 R

DRAFTED BY HA:ORM:SCLOWMAN:CAF  
APPROVED BY HA:ORM:SCLOWMAN  
EA:RA:JFRIEDMAN(INFO)

-----101835 152252Z /66

P 152144Z AUG 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY  
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF

SUBJECT: MOVEMENT OF REFUGEES FROM HONG KONG AND MACAU

REF: (A) GENEVA 12348; (B) STATE 203265

1. DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES PROMPT REPRESENTATIONS TO THE UNHCR ON HONG KONG CARE AND MAINTENANCE PROBLEMS. WE NOTE, HOWEVER, THAT REFTEL A REFERS TO MACAU CAPACITY AT APPROXIMATELY 1000. MISSION SHOULD BE AWARE THAT ACTUAL MACAU CAPACITY IS MUCH GREATER, PROBABLY FIVE TO SIX THOUSAND. CONSTRAINT IS NOT PHYSICAL CAPACITY BUT RATHER WILLINGNESS OF MACAU GOVERNMENT TO ACCEPT INCREASING NUMBERS OF REFUGEES IN A TEMPORARY ASYLUM STATUS.

2. INITIAL PROPOSAL BY MACAU GOVERNMENT TO UNHCR MENTIONS FIGURE OF 400. SUBSEQUENT FIGURE MENTIONED IN TALKS BETWEEN ORM DIRECTOR LOWMAN AND MACAU OFFICIALS WAS

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600. WE BELIEVE THESE FIGURES ARE INDICATORS NOT OF ACTUAL PHYSICAL CAPACITY BUT RATHER LEVEL TO WHICH MACAU GOVERNMENT PRESENTLY WTLLING TO GO. HOPEFULLY, IF INITIAL TRANSFERS GO SMOOTHLY, ASSURANCES BY HKG TO GOM OF ITS WILLINGNESS TO TAKE REFUGEES BACK IF NECESSARY WILL CONVINCE GOM TO ACCEPT INCREASINGLY LARGE NUMBERS OF REFUGEES.

3. WE AGREE, HOWEVER, THAT IT IS ALSO VERY DESIRABLE TO  
TO SEEK REDUCED HOUSING COST IN HONG KONG AS WELL. IT WAS  
FOR THIS REASON THAT ORM DIRECTOR REQUESTED IRC TO DEVELOP  
PROPOSALS FOR INDOCHINESE REFUGEE HOSTEL WHICH MIGHT  
HOUSE UP TO 500 REFUGEES. THIS SUBJECT WAS ALSO DISCUSSED  
WITH HKG OFFICIALS WHO INDICATED WILLINGNESS TO ASSIST  
UNHCR IN FINDING LOW COST HOUSING FACILITIES.

4. REQUEST US MISSION GENEVA PASS THESE ADDITIONAL  
THOUGHTS ON TO JAEGER. VANCE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REFUGEES, PERSONNEL MOVEMENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 15 aug 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978STATE206673  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** ORM:SCLOWMAN:CAF  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780334-0374  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Reference:** 78 GENEVA 12348, 78 STATE 203265  
**Retention:** 0  
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**Review Markings:**  
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